

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/003688

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl.⁷ G02B5/30, C08K5/105, 5/3492, C08L1/10, G02F1/13, 1/1335, 1/13363

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC.

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl.⁷ G02B5/30, C08K5/105, 5/3492, C08L1/10, G02F1/13, 1/1335, 1/13363

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Published examined utility model applications of Japan 1922-1996

Published unexamined utility model applications of Japan 1971-2005

Registered utility model specifications of Japan 1996-2005

Published registered utility model applications of Japan 1994-2005

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages.	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 2003-43250 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO.,LTD.) 2003.02.13, claims, [0033]-[0034], [0038], [0044]-[0064], [0112], [0114] and [0142], (Family:none)	2 6 , 2 8 , 3 0 , 3 9
A		1 - 2 0
A	JP 2003-73485 A (Konica Corporation) 2003.03.12, claims, [0032], [0053], [0057] and [0067], (Family:none)	3 - 5 , 8
A	EP 0911656 A2 (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO.,LTD.) 1999.04.28, full text, all drawings, & US 6778242 B1 & JP 2000-154261 A	9 - 1 0

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29.07.2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

09.8.2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 2002-192541 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO.,LTD.) 2002.07.10, [0012], [0022]-[0031] [0077]-[0078], (Family:none)	3 1, 3 7 - 4 6
A		6
X	JP 2004-50516 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO.,LTD.) 2004.02.19, [0008], [0010], [0016], [0022]-[0027], [0053], [0083]-[0088], [0108], (Family:none)	2 1 - 2 2, 2 4, 2 7, 2 9, 3 2 - 3 6
Y		2 3, 2 5 - 2 6, 2 8, 3 0 - 3 1, 4 2 - 4 6
Y	EP 1237017 A1 (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO.,LTD.) 2002.09.04, [0047], & US 2002/0192397 A1 & JP 2001-343528 A	2 3
Y	JP 7-11056 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO.,LTD.) 1995.01.13, [0031], (Family:none)	2 5
Y	JP 2000-111914 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO.,LTD.) 2000.04.21, [0010]-[0085], (Family:none)	3 7 - 4 6

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
See extra sheet of Continuation of Box No. III

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Continuation of Box No.III of continuation of first sheet(2)

The problem to be solved of the invention described in claims 1-20 is "to increase the increment of the R_e/R_{th} value vs the orienting ratio ". And the special technical feature described in claims 1-20 is "at least one compound represented by the formula (□) in an amount of 0.01 to 20 mass parts to 100 mass parts of the cellulose acylate, and at least one cyclic compound having at least three substituents in an amount of 0.01 to 20 mass parts to 100 mass parts of the cellulose acylate".

The problem to be solved of the invention described in claims 21-36 is "only a R_{th} value is reduced with keeping a high R_e , also, to prevent coagulation of a matting agent". And the special technical feature described in claims 21-36 is "at least one ultraviolet absorber in an amount of 0.1 to 20 mass parts, to 100 mass parts of the cellulose acylate".

The problem to be solved of the invention described in claims 37-46 is "a uniform cellulose acetate film having a high retardation value". And the special technical feature described in claims 37-46 is "comprising a cellulose acetate in which a substitution ratio at the sixth position which ratio is represented by the expression (8) is 0.32 or more".

Since there is no technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features, these groups of inventions are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In addition, even if it is taken into consideration that the inventions described in claims both 21-36 and 37-46 involve the retardation-increasing agents, the above-mentioned result should be maintained because the agents are not identical to the agent described in claims 1-20.

Therefore, claims 1-20, 21-36, and 37-46 do not comply with the requirement of unity of invention.